



County of Door
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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**2nd Public Hearing on the 2009 Programs and Budget for the
Department of Social Services and the Senior Resources Center
Social Services Committee Meeting
October 21, 2008**

Social Services Committee Chairman Mark Moeller called the October 21, 2008 public hearing to order at 1:30 p.m. Other committee members present were Charles Brann, Nancy Bemmann, and Ben Meyer. Department staff present was: Roger Tepe, Bev Knutson, Doreen Weyenberg and Kay Englebert. Excused from the meeting were Joel Gunnlaugsson and Joanne Ator.

Mark Moeller asked Roger Tepe, Director of the Department of Social Services if the public hearing had been properly noticed and upon confirmation of notice opened the meeting with a statement regarding the purpose of the hearing and the procedures, which would be followed. Mark Moeller asked Roger Tepe if there was any written correspondence to present and no written correspondence was received prior to the public hearing.

Nine (9) individuals attended the public hearing. In attendance and speaking at the Public Hearing:

Marty Martinez, a member of the Senior Services Advisory Committee, wanted the committee to keep in mind funding for a new building. The services that are currently being received are excellent; however they are split between the two locations, the Senior Resource Center and the Door County Government Center. Mr. Martinez stated that 50% of Door County is over the age of 50 and 33% are over the age of 65.

Jennifer Nelson, American Red Cross – Director of Transportation, provided a hand out. Ms. Nelson had asked that due to declines in funding from the 85.21 program and until the funding of grants via the consortium are approved, that the committee consider one more year of support to fill the gap in funding. The American Red Cross provides transportation to the elderly, disabled and Veterans. The Door County American Red Cross office is now located at Sunshine House, which reduced their expenses.

Barb Maskell, HELP of Door County, thanked the committee for their continued funding. She also had a pleasurable experience attending the Quality Service Review at the Department of Social Services.

Michael Serpe, County Administrator, thanked the department and the committee for working so diligently. Mr. Serpe recognized the importance of building a new facility to house services

and acknowledged that the demands and services provided are only going to grow. He is always open to comments.

Dan Daubner, D & D Lawn Care, provides lawn cutting and snow removal services. Mr. Daubner's concern is that he lost nine (9) clients last year and no new clients have been added. Does he have to look for more clients?

Leo Zipperer, Chair of the County Board, introduced himself and indicated he was there to learn.

Chairman Mark Moeller concluded the hearing by thanking all participants and the attendees for their time and for expressing their thoughts.

The Public Hearing concluded at 1:50 p.m.

It is noted that written correspondence, dated October 22nd, 2008 from N.E.W. Curative Rehabilitation, Inc., was received after the public hearing. N.E.W. Curative provides services to the elderly and they ask that we consider our aging population when finalizing the 2009 budget.

Social Services Committee Meeting

1. Call to Order: Chair Mark Moeller called the October 21, 2008 meeting of the Social Services Committee to order at 1:50 p.m. Committee members present were, Charles Brann, Nancy Bemmann, and Ben Meyer. County staff present were Roger Tepe, Bev Knutson, Doreen Weyenberg, Julie Wergin and Kay Englebert. Excused from the meeting were Joel Gunnlaugsson and Joanne Ator.

2. Approve Agenda: Motion by Charles Brann, second by Nancy Bemmann to approve the agenda as posted. Motion carried.

3. Public Participation: There was no public participation.

4. Review and Approve Minutes of Social Services Committee Meeting. Motion by Ben Meyer, second by Nancy Bemmann to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2008 meeting of the Social Services Committee. Motion carried.

5. Review and Approve Vouchers for September 2008. Upon review and discussion, motion by Ben Meyer, second by Mark Moeller to approve the vouchers as submitted and detailed below:

Social Services

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Expenditures submitted for approval at this meeting | \$ 134,596.34 |
| Bills paid outside of the normal bill paying procedures | 7,760.99 |
| Monthly entries for payments to other County Depts. | <u>1,838.16</u> |
| Total Social Services expenditures submitted for approval | \$ 144,195.49 |

Senior Resource Center

Total Senior Resource Center expenditures submitted for approval \$ 19,013.92

Total Expenditures for approval **\$ 163,209.41**

The motion carried unanimously.

6. Informational: Julie Wergin was introduced as the new Social Worker for the Children and Family Services Unit. Julie held an internship with Kewaunee and Brown Counties and had previous employment in the State of Florida. Julie started on August 10th. Roger Tepe also let the committee know that Christina Baudhuin has been hired as the Child Care Coordinator in the Economic Support Unit. She will be formally introduced at the November 11th meeting.

7. Informational: A discussion took place on the comments made at the Public Hearing. Roger Tepe clarified the comment(s) made by Jennifer Nelson – American Red Cross in regards to “bridging the gap”. Roger added that last week the 5311 grant application was submitted and those funds, if awarded, should become available after the first of the year. There is a hearing next month on the 85.21 transportation plan.

Charles Brann had referred to Dan Daubner – D & D Lawn Services, who was looking for answers as to why he has received less referrals from the Department. Bev Knutson commented that there was a waiting list for the program that can fund this service and that when social workers complete their assessment for client eligibility they look to friends, family and neighbors first. However, some clients do not have family in the area and some people do not have any one else to rely on. Bev commented that Dan was a very good provider of lawn care and snow removal services. Bev does have a list ready to send to him.

Roger Tepe gave a report on the October 10th Finance Committee meeting. Roger indicated that Social Services/Senior Resource Center did not come up for discussion and no changes were made. Roger was asked a question regarding Community Programs in the absence of Joe Krebsbach. The budget that was presented to the committee back on September 19, 2008 was the budget that the Finance Committee approved.

8. Action: Full-Time Aging Unit Director. Roger Tepe presented the committee with Draft 6 of a letter that could be presented to the members of the County Board. Mr. Tepe also noted that Michael Serpe, County Administrator, had seen and approved the draft of this letter. It is being proposed that the 2009 budget not be changed and that the Full Time Aging Unit Supervisor be considered in the 2010 budget or thereafter. Draft 6 of this letter would be mailed after the November 4, 2008, meeting if approved. Charles Brann moved to send the letter to the full County Board asking them to consider funding for a full-time management person at the Senior Resource Center in the 2010 budget year or thereafter. This letter is to be signed by all Committee members and should be mailed after November 4, 2008. Ben Meyer seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

9. Action: General Relief Block. Information regarding the General Relief Block Grant was presented to the committee by Roger Tepe. Each year the State asks if the County wants to run the program and in the past, the County has declined. This program is a voluntary program. With the BadgerCare Plus for Childless Adults coming out in spring of 2009, that program would partially address the needs covered by the General Relief Block. Ben Meyer moved that the Department of Social Services decline the State's offer to operate the General Relief Block Grant program in 2009. Further, the Department Director is authorized to formally decline that participation in writing to the

State by the deadline of November 17, 2008. Nancy Bemmann seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

10. Recurring Reports, Informational Only.

ADRC/Family Care planning process: Roger Tepe indicated the General Consortium meeting will be October 22nd. Roger indicated that various models are being looked at – to standardize processes and fiscal information. Once a “core group” is formed, other counties can join in. However, we need to make sure it is the group/model we want. Roger will keep the committee informed as to outcomes and changes.

Bay Area Agency on Aging: Mark Moeller presented updated information. The Bay Area Agency on Aging will be dissolved on 1/1/09 and will be known as Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR). The Board of Directors for this organization will be smaller than the current structure and come from different areas and expertise. There would be no NE Region Advisory Committee, meaning we would have less local representation. Milwaukee and Dane counties will each be their own organization and the remaining counties will operate as one unit out of Madison. The goal is to have one location and provide the same services for everyone. The committee was wondering if someone from Madison could come and speak to the Board about the reorganization.

The committee took no Action.

11. Supervisor's Reports, Program Units, Informational Only.

Adult Services. Bev Knutson told the committee about a successful educational seminar entitled “At the Crossroad”, Family Conversations about Alzheimer's disease, Dementia and Driving. Through a grant that was awarded to the Senior Resource Center by the Bay Area Agency on Aging, this workshop provided the knowledge and tools necessary to promote the confidence of family members and professional caregivers as they approach this difficult topic. A panel of experts including Jennifer Enright-Ford, Nurse Consultant with the WI DOT Medical Review Unit, Christy Wisniewski from Memory Care Connections, Becky Reichelt, Alzheimer's Assoc., Connie Schuster, Door County Sheriffs Department, Pam Busch, Door-Tran and Kelly Rankin, Occupational Therapist at Door County Memorial presented information about assessing driving abilities, talking with physicians, medications, the role of law enforcement and making a report to the Department of Transportation. This was the first time that a nurse from the DOT presented this information in Door County. Bev also talked about a new grant and services to Washington Island. The islanders are very appreciative of the meal site and the Meals on Wheels Program. At the Senior Center, they are gearing up for the Medicare health and prescription drug benefits enrollment period as there are changes in many of the plans since last year.

Child and Family Services. Dori Weyenberg reported to the committee that the Quality Service Review was over and concluded with a summary presentation. Everything went well and congratulated her workers for a job well done. There are areas that they need to improve on – Permanency Planning and long term view (independent living). Out of Home placements are at status quo. Dori also handed out a letter for the committee members to sign and an invitation to the Foster Parent Appreciation dinner that will occur on November 12th.

Economic Support. Roger Tepe gave a report as Joanne Ator was absent from the meeting. Due to a difficult upcoming winter, the Governor approved an additional \$130,000,000.00 in energy assistance/\$570.00 per household. The W-2 program is going okay. The BadgerCare Plus Core Plan (childless adults) is moving forward and will go live in spring of 2009. Christina Baudhuin, the Child Care Coordinator, started October 20th.

Support Services. Kay Englebert reported that the September books had closed and for the first nine (9) months everything was running very good. The Department of Social Services was at 65/66% and the Senior Resource Center was at 75%, slightly higher due to an increase in gas and raw food. The donations are lower than expected at the Senior Resource Center.

The committee took no action on informational items presented.

12. Informational: Director's Report. Roger Tepe stated that the 5311 program, if approved, would bring in funds for the Senior Resource Center; and it was a relatively secure source of new income. Roger informed the committee that Specialized Services was breaking into two (2) new companies, Advocates for Independent Living and Helping Hands. Ken Jeansonne will own both entities. Currently, the Department of Social Services has two contracts with Specialized Services.

13. Next Monthly Meeting: The committee set its next monthly meeting for 1:30 pm, November 11, 2008 at the Door County Senior Resource Center. The 85.21 transportation public hearing would be conducted at this same meeting.

14. Adjournment: Motion by Ben Meyer, second by Charles Brant to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 p.m., Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Coulthurst
Recording Secretary

APPROVED BY:

